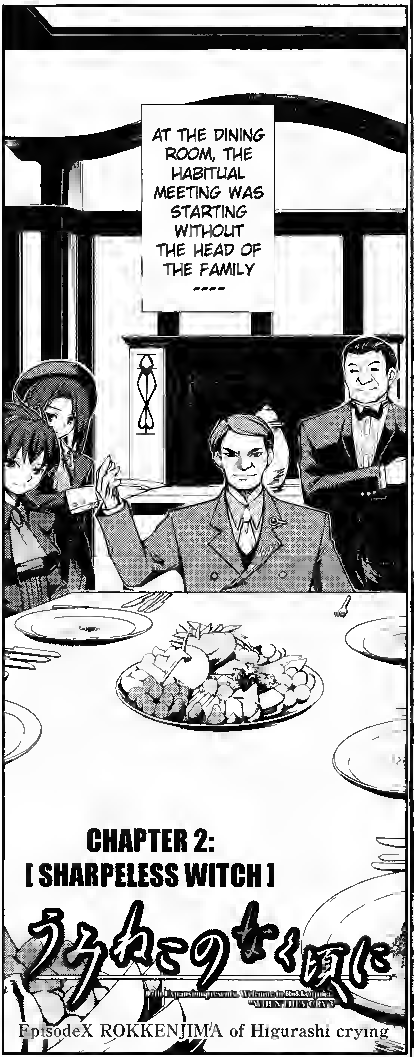
THE USHIROMIYA FAMILY HOLDS A SOLEMN LUNCHEON MEETING BUT...


AT THE DINING ROOM, THE HABITUAL MEETING WAS STARTING WITHOUT THE HEAD OF THE FAMILY

CHAPTER 2:
[SHARPELESS WITCH]
うみねこのなく頃に
EpisodeX ROKKENJIMA of Higurashi crying

原作：竜騎士07
作画：緋色雪
シナリオ：宮城季詩子（エッシャークス）

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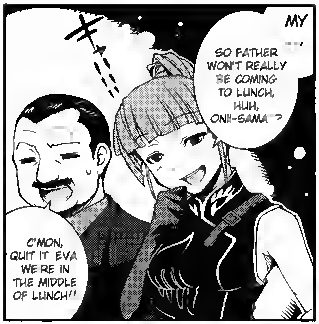
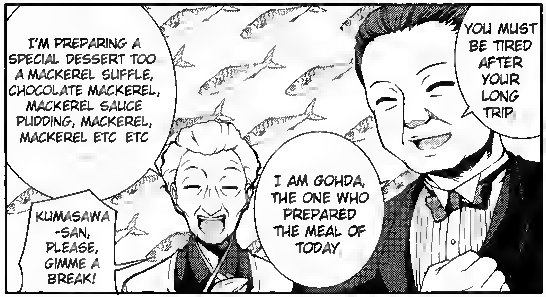

MY
SO FATHER WON'T REALLY BE COMING TO LUNCH, HUH, ONII-SAMA
C'MON, QUIT IT EVA WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF LUNCH!!

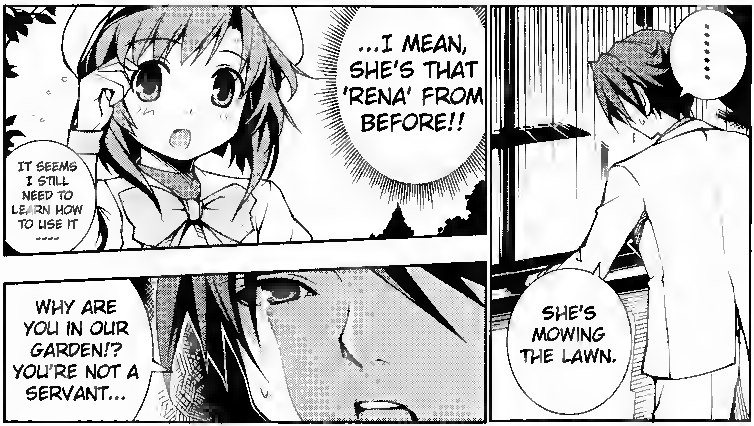
IT SEEMS THAT TODAY'S MEAL IS A SPECIAL MENU FROM GOHDA.
FATHER WENT TO TO EAT AHEAD OF US IN HIS STUDY, SO LET'S US START HERE, JUST US.


I'M PREPARING A SPECIAL DESSERT TOO A MACKEREL SUFFLE, CHOCOLATE MACKEREL, MACKEREL SAUCE PUDDING, MACKEREL, MACKEREL ETC ETC
KUMASAWA -SAN, PLEASE, GIMME A BREAK!
I AM GOHDA, THE ONE WHO PREPARED THE MEAL OF TODAY.
YOU MUST BE TIRED AFTER YOUR LONG TRIP

BUTLER -SAMA IS THERE ANY PROBLEM WITH THE TASTE OF THE FOOD?

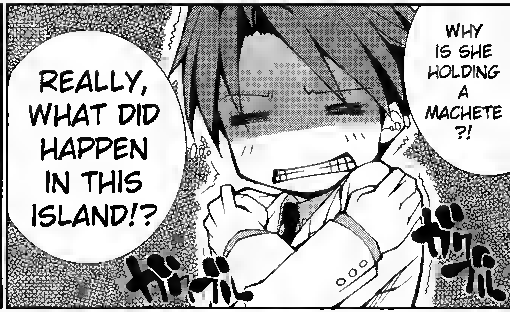
THERE'S SOMEONE IN THE COURTYARD ...
... HM!?
THERE'S ABSOLUTELY NOTHING WRONG WITH THE TASTE, EVERYTHING IS GOOD HERE! JUST IT BEING TASTY IS ENOUGH TO PUT ME IN GOOD MOOD!
(NO WAY I'D WANT A MACKEREL DESSERT THOUGH)

!!?


...I MEAN, SHE'S THAT 'RENA' FROM BEFORE!!
IT SEEMS I STILL NEED TO LEARN HOW TO USE IT ----
.....
SHE'S MOWING THE LAWN.
WHY ARE YOU IN OUR GARDEN!? YOU'RE NOT A SERVANT...

RENA!
UHHM, AS YOU SEE, I'M 'MOWING THE LAWN', RIGHT?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING... WITH THAT LAWNMOWER ?!!
WELL, IT SEEMS TO BE 'OF USE' TOO, THOUGH ... RIGHT~~
SEE YOU, BATTLER -KUN!!

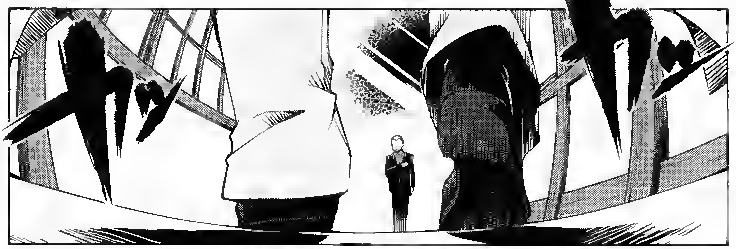
EVEN MY RELATIVES ARE ACTING WEIRD...


REALLY, WHAT DID HAPPEN IN THIS ISLAND!?
WHY IS SHE HOLDING A MACHETE?!

GEORGE-ANIKI TOO, EVEN THOUGH HE HAS A BIT OF A WEIRD SIDE, HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE COUSINS IS THE SAME AS---
AAH!!
HAPPINESS SHARING ---
UU-!
BUT ---

I HAVE... I HAVE A LITTLE SOMETHING I'D LIKE TO ASK!!
HM?
GEORGE ANIKI!!

KANON-KUN!
DO YOU KNOW WHERE JESSICA-CHAN IS?
JESSICA-CHAN?
NOW THAT YOU ASK ME, I HAVE YET TO SEE HER TODAY... YESTERDAY SHE WAS TOGETHER WITH US IN THE BOAT, THOUGH...
I DID NOT SEE OJOU-SAMA TODAY.
HER MEAL WAS NOT PREPARED, SO...
NEE-SA... SHANNON, TOO, I DID NOT SEE HER EVER SINCE THIS MORNING...
I THINK THEY WERE TOGETHER, BUT...
JESSICA AND SHANNON-CHAN TOO,
NOBODY SAW THEM!?
...DID THEY 'DISAPPEAR' FROM THE ISLAND ALL OF A SUDDEN ...!?



THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR COMING, MASTER.
EVERYONE IS WAITING FOR YOU INSIDE.
OPEN IT, GENJI!!

ベアトリーチェ

...GRAND-FATHER!?
!?
THIS PLACE IS ALREADY FOR THE FAMILY MEETING!! LEAVE!!
WHY ARE MY GRAND-CHILDREN STILL HERE!?
GET OUT!!
EEH-- HE CAME IN ALL OF A SUDDEN~~
I MEAN, WHAT ARE THOSE CLOTHES, HAPPY HEADBAND AND FAN!?
WOOO---
YES!!

THEN,
LET'S BEGGIN WITH THE USHIROMIYA FAMILY MEETING ...
THIS YEAR, WE HAVE AN IMPORTANT TOPIC TO DISCUSS, SO BE ATTENTIVE!!
AFTER ARRIVING AT THE ISLAND, I WAS PROBABLY EVEN FORGETTING MY FATIGUE DUE TO THE SERIES OF WEIRD EVENTS. ANYWAY, I FORCED MYSELF TO CONSENT THAT, SOON, JESSICA AND SHANNON WOULD SHOW UP.
THIS IS HOW YOU SPREAD YOUR FINGERS !!
PERHAPS IT'S LIKE THIS!
MARIA, DON'T STRUGGLE !!
HAHAHA, WE'RE ALMOST IN THE BEACH!
WOULDN'T IT BE LIKE 'PAPANPAN'?
I WONDER IF THE BEATING TIME WOULD MATCH LIKE THIS...

HOWEVER, EVEN WHEN THE FAMILY MEETING IS OVER, NOBODY TOUCHES THE SUBJECT OF THE TWO WHO DISAPPEARED.

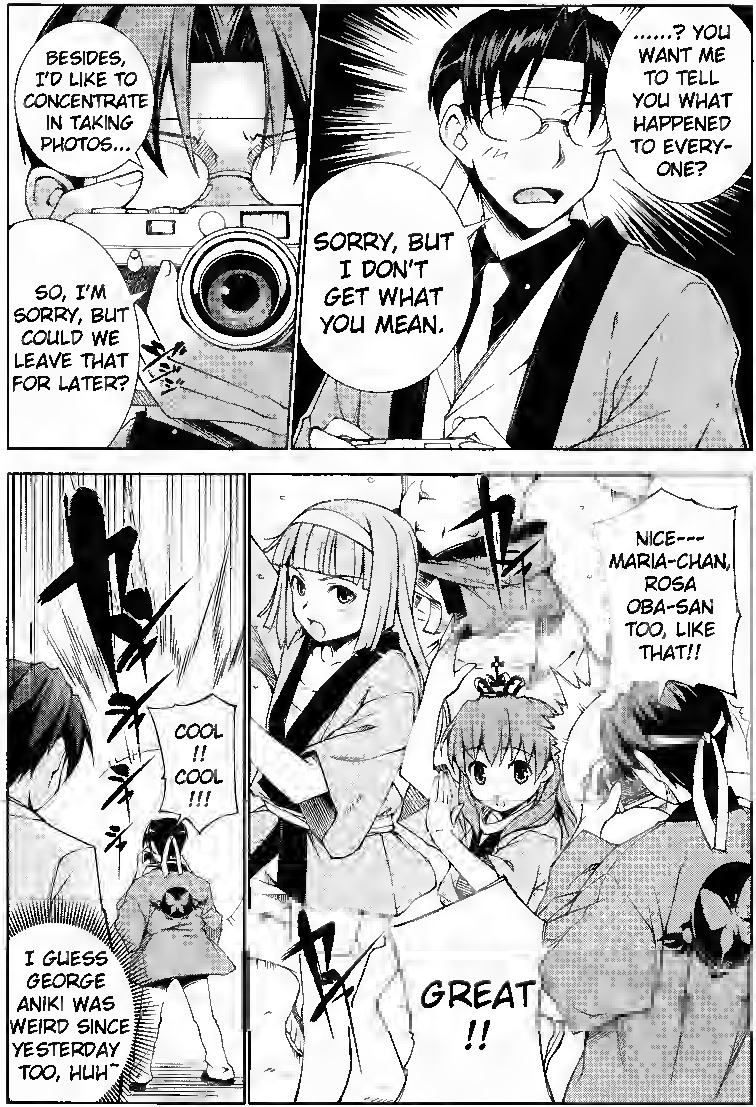
OCTOBER, 6TH, 1986, MORNING ----
HOOOH, THAT WAS QUITE A SLEEP.
...WHAT? WHERE'S GEORGE ANIKI AND MARIA?
COULD IT BE THAT THEY ALREADY WENT TO HAVE BREAKFAST ...
THEN, I'M GOING TOO!!
... SOMEHOW, IT'S TOO QUIET----
I WAS THINKING THERE'S NO WAY IT'D BE LIKE THAT AT THIS HOUR, BUT---
THERE'S NO ONE HERE!!?

I THOUGHT THE SERIES OF 'STRANGE INCIDENTS' EVER SINCE YESTERDAY MIGHT BE RELATED TO THIS, SO I CAME HERE, BUT...
SINCE THERE WERE TWO PEOPLE WHO WERE GONE SINCE YESTERDAY, I DECIDED TO LOOK FOR EVERYONE WHO DISAPPEARED
THEY REALLY ARE DOING A FESTIVAL HERE...
THIS THING CERTAINLY DID NOT HAPPEN 6 YEARS AGO... OR BETTER, THERE SHOULD NOT BE ANYONE HERE BUT MY FAMILY!!
AH, IT WAS NOT A DREAM!!
NOW I HAVE TO SEARCH ANOTHER PLACE QUICKLY ...
AND NOW I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY'LL DO TO ME
AND IF I'M FOUND BY THAT BUNCH ...
!!?

HP
HP
THIS TIME~ I WANTO TO REACH THE GOLDEN LAND WITHOUT DYING!!
BEATO MARCHING SONG~
PAPAN PAPA
THE FIRST NIGHT WILL BEGIN
BEATO'S MARCHING SONG, YOYOI NOYOI!!

SPEAKING OF THAT, IF I REMEMBER, LAST NIGHT ...
DID THE MEETING AT THE LUNCH GO SMOOTHLY?
WHAT IS THIS, 'BEATO MARCHING SONG'? AND WHY EVERYBODY'S DANCING...? EVEN KRAUSS OJI-SAN IS PSYCHED INTO IT...
.... HAA!!?
I SEE, SO THE MEETING DURING THE LUNCH YESTERDAY WAS
SO, WE SHOULD TRY AND JOIN TOGETHER TOMORROW AS WELL
THE COSTUME FITTING IS DONE TOO, AND BATTLER -KUN'S IS PREPARED TOO.
ALL FOR THE SAKE OF THIS DANCE!?
WHAT KIND OF MEETING WERE THEY HAVING?!!
THERE'S STILL TIME UNTIL THEN, SO RELAX.
REALLY, I'M SO LOOKING FORWARD FOR THE REAL THING!
YEAH, SURE THING,
NOW I'VE MASTERED THE FINGERING PERFECTLY !!

BUT--- 'BEATO' IS THAT WITCH, BEATRICE, RIGHT?
GRANDFATHER IS INTO OCCULTISM, BUT MY FATHER AND THE OTHERS SHOULD NOT HAVE ANY INTEREST IN IT ...
FROM THE START, THAT WEIRD FACE GRANDFATHER USED TO MAKE WAS VERY CONSPICUOUS, BUT
IN A CERTAIN DAY, HE SECLUDED HIMSELF IN HIS STUDY AND IMMERSED HIMSELF INTO RESEARCH OF THE OCCULTISM, THAT'S WHAT MY FATHER HAD TOLD ME-----
THERE'S ALSO A STORY THAT THE FUNDS WITH WHICH GRANDFATHER RESTORED THE RUINED USHI-ROMIYA FAMILY WERE GRANTED BY THE GOLDEN WITCH BEATRICE...
SO, IF IT WAS GRANDFATHER ALONE DOING IT, I'D STILL UNDERSTAND, BUT....
MOST OF THE RELATIVES, INCLUDING ME, SHOULD NOT BELIEVE THAT, RIGHT!?
AS I THOUGHT ...
I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO ASK DIRECTLY WHAT IS GOING ON ON THIS ISLAND!!


BESIDES, I'D LIKE TO CONCENTRATE IN TAKING PHOTOS...
SO, I'M SORRY, BUT COULD WE LEAVE THAT FOR LATER?
SORRY, BUT I DON'T GET WHAT YOU MEAN.
.....? YOU WANT ME TO TELL YOU WHAT HAPPENED TO EVERY-ONE?
NICE--- MARIA-CHAN, ROSA OBA-SAN TOO, LIKE THAT!!
GREAT !!
COOL !! COOL !!!
I GUESS GEORGE ANIKI WAS WEIRD SINCE YESTERDAY TOO, HUH~

THAT'S RIGHT,
EVEN THOUGH THEY WERE ALL SO FIRED UP IN THE DANCE, MY FATHER WAS NOWHERE TO BE SEEN!! HE MUST KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON----
!!
WAIT A MINUTE, KANON-KUN, KANON-KUN!
...NOW IT IS ABOUT RUDOLF-SAMA, IS IT...? JUST LIKE YESTERDAY, HUH...
HEH
AS I IMAGINED, I'VE NOT BEEN SEEING HIM SINCE THIS MORNING, JUST LIKE YESTERDAY ...
I SEE--- AND SHANNON -CHAN TOO, NO NEWS --?
NO.. IF IT CONTINUES TOO FOR TOO LONG, IT WILL CAUSE TROUBLE TO THE WORK ...
----THEN, WHAT ABOUT THOSE CLOTHES AND THAT MARCHING SONG!?
.. AS FOR THAT, I CAN'T SAY ANYTHING. I'M JUST 'FURNITURE', YOU KNOW.

IT'S NOT SETTLED THAT JESSICA AND SHANNON-CHAN DISAPPEARED ----
BUT, NOW, EVEN MY FATHER DISAPPEARED FROM THE ISLAND...?
FOR NOW, IT'S NOT GOOD TO STAY HERE FOR TOO LONG...
IT'S NO GOOD, NO GOOD! AS THINGS ARE, I'M NOT GETTING ANYTHING AT ALL!!
BATTLER-SAMA WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

GOOD THING I'VE RUN AWAY TO THE FOREST, BUT... THE PROBLEM IS NOT SOLVED YET.
I DON'T EVEN KNOW FROM WHERE I SHOULD START THINKING... I GUESS THERE'S NO WAY THEY'RE PLAYING COMEDIANS WITH ME TOO---
HOWEVER, TO THINK I'D END UP ENTERING THE FOREST IN A SITUATION LIKE THIS---
NEE-SAN, THEY'RE TOO SCARED!
IN THE FOREST, LIVES A SCARY WITCH, AND DURING NIGHTS OF STORM, SHE COMES TO KIDNAP CHILDREN"
SINCE I WAS TOLD THAT, WHEN I WAS A BRAT, I DID NOT EVEN GET CLOSE TO IT, AND YET...
I USED TO THINK THAT IT WAS A MADE UP STORY SO THAT THE CHILDREN WOULD NOT GET CLOSE TO THE FOREST, BUT...
EVEN IN A TRIVIAL MEMORY LIKE THIS,
THE 'WITCH' SHOWS UP, HUH...

HEEEY!!
HEEY! JESSICA!! SHANNON-CHAN!!
HEEY! IF YOU'RE THERE, PLEASE ANSWER ME!!
THINKING BETTER, THOSE TWO WOULD PROBABLY BE THE LAST ONES TO COME TO SUCH FOREST,
HOWEVER, A SAVAGE LAND IN A PARTICULAR ISLAND IS ...
...WELL,
SO IT'S NO USE SCREAMING AROUND, HUH...
!!?

A FENCE !?
WHY IS SUCH A THING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE FOREST...?
THE STRUCTURE IS ALSO FIRM.. IT'S LIKE A CAGE.
FOR NOW.
I'LL TRY FOLLOWING IT UP--- IT MAY BE OF SOME USE!
IT'S QUITE LONG----

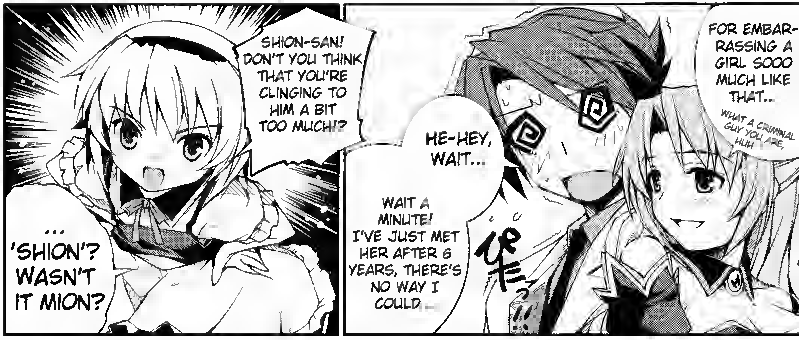
ngel Mort

AH-
IF IT CONTINUES LIKE THIS, I GUESS EVEN I WILL END UP GOING NUTS, WHAT THE HECK!!
ANGEL MORT? FAMILY RESTAURANT!? A FAMILY RESTAURANT IN ROKKENJIMA!!?

IF THAT'S HOW IT IS,
I'LL TRY TO FILL MY STOMACH AND GO ALONG WITH IT ALL!!

WELCOME, MASTER!!
WELCOME TO ANGEL MORT---

BA-BA-BATTLER-SAMA!?
……! CAN'T BELIEVE IT, SHANNON-CHAN!!?
SHA-SHAN-NON-CHAN?
WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU DOING…!?
AAH----!! PLEASE, DON'T LOOK, BATTLER-SAMA… IT'S SO EMBAR-RASSING!


SHION-SAN! DON'T YOU THINK THAT YOU'RE CLINGING TO HIM A BIT TOO MUCH!?
... 'SHION'? WASN'T IT MION?
HE-HEY, WAIT...
WAIT A MINUTE! I'VE JUST MET HER AFTER 6 YEARS, THERE'S NO WAY I COULD...
FOR EMBARRASSING A GIRL SOOO MUCH LIKE THAT..
WHAT A CRIMINAL GUY YOU ARE, HUH!

MION IS MY TWIN SISTER---
I AM SONOZAKI SHION.

BUT FORGET THAT, I'LL TAKE YOU TO YOUR SEAT, MASTER.
YOU CAN SEAT HERE, INSIDE, PLEASE---
WAIT!! DON'T PUSH, DON'T PUSH!

SFX: AHYAHYA!!
DAD !!?

OOH, BATTLER, SO YOU MANAGED TO COME THIS FAR!
WELL~ HAVE A SIT!!
I CAN'T BELIEVE THE CLOTHES THESE GIRLS ARE USING. NORMALLY, THIS WOULD BE SOME KIND OF 'BANQUET', THOUGH...
RUDOLF-SAMA IS HERE TOO, SO YOU CAN COME, PLEASE.
BESIDES, EVEN MY FATHER IS IN THIS SHOP! AAH, SERIOUSLY, I'M ALWAYS BEING LEFT BEHIND WITH EVERYTHING!
... AH...? AAH, I UNDER-STAND ...

I'M SORRY FOR BEFORE, MASTER.
TO... TODAY, I, SHANNON, WOULD LIKE YOU TO USE ME WITH ANYTHING YOU'D WISH, YOU'RE OK WITH THAT, RIGHT?
LOOK~~ I KNEW IT, SERVING A CUSTOMER BOLDLY IS THE WAY TO MAKE PROGRESS ~~~
SHION-SAN, ONCE IN WHILE, KNOWS WHAT TO SAY, HUH
...SATOKO, IF YOU SAY SUCH THINGS, I'LL MAKE YOU EAT PUMPKIM
UWAAAN, SHION-SAN, YOU BULLY
!?
AAAH !!
BATTLER-SAMA, THAT'S NOT IT, THIS IS A RULE OF THE SHOP, T HIS PLACE IS NOT LIKE THE MANSION...
COW!!
AS I THOUGHT, BOYS REALLY DO LIKE BOOBS MORE THAN A SNAKE OF LIGHT!
410, YOU'RE STILL UNDER ORDER TO STAY STANDBY
C'MON, C'MON, I'LL SATISFY BATTLER -SAMA'S GREED~!
AAH~~ I'M SO HAPPY, BUT I FEEL LIKE I'M DYING, FORGIVE ME!

WHILE THE SITUATION CAN'T SWALLOW ME, I'M STILL A VIEWER--- IN THAT CASE...
I CAN TURN THE CHESS BOARD AROUND. I'LL SEE THROUGH THIS ISLAND THAT WENT NUTS UNTIL THEN!
CONTINUES ON NEXT ISSUE!
COMPARED TO THE CLUB PUNISHMENT GAME, THIS MUCH IS A PIECE OF CAKE!
IF THIS GOES ONE, I DON'T KNOW WHAT FACE TO MAKE WHEN I GO BACK TO THE MANSION---
YOU'RE SO DEPRAVED, RUDOLF -SAMA~~
MAID-SAN, WHEN YOU'RE TROUBLED YOU'RE SO HOT, HUH ---
I STILL DON'T KNOW WHERE JESSICA IS!
WELL, I FOUND DAD AND SHANNON -CHAN, BUT...
WHAT WILL BE BATTLER'S MOVE AGAINST THIS BAFFLING SITUATION!?

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